

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/506,683
Amendment filed September 17, 2009
Reply to OA dated June 26, 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 5 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 1, 6 and 8-12, and add new claim 13, as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A container wherein a ring-shaped rim frame made of plastic is provided on an opening at the upper end of a flexible tubular main body which can be disposed by crushing in a lengthwise direction, a bottom plate made of plastic is fitted onto an opening at the lower end thereof, and at least one ring-shaped trunk section frame is provided on the outer circumferential surface of said tubular main body, in addition to which, a plurality of first engaging projections are formed integrally with said ring-shaped rim frame in a projecting member at prescribed intervals, a downwardly extending engaging wall is formed integrally with the outer circumferential edge of said bottom plate, and a plurality of second engaging projections are formed at prescribed positions integrally with bottom plate.

Claim 2 (Original): The container according to claim 1, wherein said tubular main body is made of a plastic laminate film.

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Claim 3 (Original): The container according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said ring-shaped rim frame has a laterally-oriented T-shaped cross-section in which an upper rib and a lower rib are continuously formed on the inner circumferential edge of a brim section, and said bottom plate comprises a circular plate of a bottom plate and an upper side rib extending upwards from the external circumferential edge of the circular plate of the bottom plate.

Claim 4 (Original): The container according to claim 3, wherein grips are formed in a projecting member on the brim section of said ring-shaped rim frame.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently amended): An external container detachably fitted onto the container according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 or 2 ~~[[to 5]]~~ and used for mixing the contents of the container and transporting the container,

wherein the external container comprises a trunk wall and a circular bottom plate made of hard plastic, a plurality of engaging recesses into which the first engaging projections of the container can be fitted are formed at prescribed intervals on a ring-shaped rim section formed on the upper end section of the trunk wall, in addition to which, an inner ring groove into which the engaging wall of the container can

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be engaged is formed in the boundary region between said trunk wall and the circular plate of the bottom plate, and a plurality of engaging holes into which the second engaging projections of the container can be engaged are formed at prescribed positions in said circular bottom plate.

Claim 7 (Original): The external container according to claim 6, wherein peep holes are provided at prescribed positions in said trunk wall.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The external container according to claim 6 ~~[[or 7]]~~, wherein air holes are provided in a plinth formed on the circular bottom plate.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The external container according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 6 ~~[[to 8]]~~, wherein cutaway sections which are open on the upper end side are formed on said ring-shaped rim section.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The external container according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 6 ~~[[to 9]]~~, wherein a difference in level is provided in the outer circumferential surface of said trunk wall, and the external diameter at the lower end side is made smaller than the internal diameter at the upper end opening side thereof.

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Claim 11 (Currently amended): The external container according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 6 [[to 10]], wherein a lifting handle having bag hanging projections is attached rotatably to said ring-shaped rim section, and a projecting piece for supporting said lifting handle in an upright state is also formed thereon.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): A mixing device having an agitating platform for fixing the external container according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 6 [[to 11]] into which said container is fitted, for mixing the contents of the container by causing the external container and the container to agitating in unison with the agitating platform; the mixing device further comprises a plurality of fastening means for fastening the trunk wall of said external container, thereby detachably fixing the external container to the agitating platform.

Claim 13 (New): The container according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of first engaging projections are formed integrally with said ring-shaped rim frame in a projecting member toward an outer side at prescribed intervals.